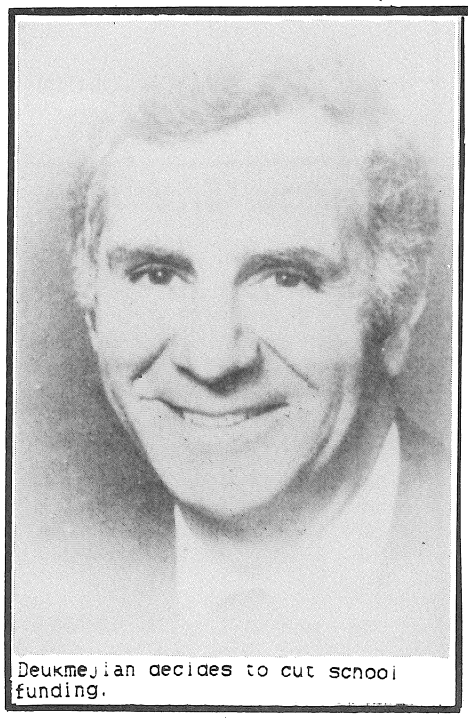
El Caballero

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL VOLUME 45 NUMBER 10 MAY 15, 1987



Deukmejian decides to cut school funding.

Deukmejian Cuts School Funding

by Johnathan Bradley

Governor Deukmejian's reduction of the education budget in order to bolster state funds for the fiscal 87-88 is angering educational groups.

The State Department of Education stated that schools last year recieved 46.5 percent of new state funds and this year it has been reduced to 9.3 percent. The 86-87 budget $893 million will be reduced, according to the State Department of Education, to $124 million, a difference of $729 million. California schools will need at least 737 million dollars to stay even.

The money which was to be spent on schools is to help raise the states reserve to one billion dollars. The state presently has $500 million in reserve but Deukmejian feels that more is necessary in case of emergencies.

The current funding problem came about because of a disagreement with State Democrats as to the source of the financing. Deukmejian reneged the funding claiming that the Democrats refused to keep an agreement to get money from the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS).It was agreed to use surplus money to supplement state funding. State employees objected claiming it was their retirement money and should be spent except for that purpose. The rift has placed many districts in trouble because they have spent funds that they expected, but now they will not recieve.

The RUSD predicts that there will be a three and a half million dollar budget deficit for this year. However, a faculty person points out that last year the district claimed there would be a $4 million deficit but ended up with a $4 million surplus.

The district is projected to lose about $6 million from the budget cut. Also lost will be 573,000 in remedial class funding. The areas effected by the cuts are the elimination of the Childrens' Center, Cafeteria subsidies, the Gifted and Talented Program (GATE), elementary vocals, secondary extracurricular athletics and music and reducing special education and help to the handicapped.

The District is planning to discuss other cuts in meetings to come. "The District has program program before, "states Vice Principal Tim Shaw, "but this time they might really have to do it. I know of other Districts that have had to do it."

So far the new district superintendent has not publically made any suggestions to what he may have to do because of the proposed budgets cuts but cuts in

EC Drains Blood

by Charan Johl

On April 27, El Cerrito High held its biannual Blood Drive in the girls' gymnasium. About 145 students contributed to the biggest turnout ever. Donations were restricted to students over 17 years of age and over 110 pounds. As a result, many who wanted to donate blood were not allowed to. One student, Garth Anearm, said he felt really "upset that I couldn't give blood. I feel its a duty for all people to give blood."

Students filled into the gym between eight in the morning and four in the evening while they filled out questionaires and their state of health; they were asked whether they were sick, drugged, had a venereal disease, or some other problem that could be passed through their blood.

Craddock and Donovan Win NMS Money

by Charan Johl

Last month five students from El Cerrito High were chosen as National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists.

David Donovan, Tony Craddock, Patchen Markell, Erik Finkelstein, and Ross Okamura all received the honor. However, only Donovan and Craddock will receive money. Since the money comes from the college the student attends, only those colleges that recognize National Merit give money and some colleges have a certain level to which they are willing to give scholarships.

Both Donovan and Craddock are going to University of California at San Diego and both will receive $500 a year for four years. In addition both are guaranteed housing for the four years they attend the college.

Markell plans to go to the University of California at Berkeley and Finkelstein to Oberlin College in Ohio. Both colleges recognize the National Merit program, but since they have a cap on their funding, neither student will receive money.

Jazz Ensemble Gets 4th

by Ray Yokoi

Junior David Barazza led the El Cerrito Jazz Ensemble to a respectable fourth place at the 30th annual Monterey Jazz Ensemble. They were selected by audition, one of only nine bands in the state of California. They were selected fourth out of the ten and missed the night concert by one spot--the top three bands play at a night concert.

Each school played three songs;Primetime,a medium-swing,Misty,a ballad,and Mourners,a medium-fast swing.There were four judges, all professional muscians,that rated the bands on a scale of 1 to 5-1 being the best.The top three bands were third,Eagle Rock,second,Rio-Americana,and first,Berkeley--who won for the third straight year. All of these bands played in the prestigous final competion.

Many members felt that they deserved a third place rating instead of Eagle Rock.Many other bands besides El Cerrito felt that Eagle Rock recieved third place solely on the fact that they were the only band from Southern California competing in the festival.El Cerrito was a bit disappointed but guitarist Israel Sims ,Eric Zalkin on trumpet and David Barraza on tenor sax all recieved honors for their performances. David Barraza was best all around tenor sax soloist out of the ten bands.Also, trombone player Dan Fox and tenor

Junior Dave Barraza was named best all around tenor sax soloist.

FEATURES

"E.C. Vice" Swings Into Action

by Andrew M. Kaplan

Society in recent years has taken a sudden interest in drugs. It has become vogue to build television shows and movies around the crimes of drug users, dealers, pushers, and other criminals. Society is out to curb drug abuse, and their campaign is targeted towards us, the teenagers. Presumably, if they can keep us from using now, we won't start later in life. What I want to know is what's the real story behind drug use at El Cerrito High? Is it so rampant that campus security officers Small and Johnson could go around arresting people behind every doorway? Or is it much less than today's media would have us believe?

Many students at EC talk as if Mr. Small and Mr. Johnson are useless members of the administrative staff who only get in the way. Not so, according to district chief of security Corwin Meyers. Statistics published in the West County Times state that crime in RUSD schools is less than that at schools in other districts. Meyers attributes this to the high-profile police presence that Richmond schools have. Specifically regarding drug use on campus, Small says that it has been decreasing in recent years. He believes that drug use is at about the same level, but is is being kept off the campus. People are getting smarter, more sophisticated, he says. They are becoming more aware of the police presence on campus. An additional deterrent is the fact that drug use on campus is a felony, while off campus it is merely a misdemeanor. While it sounds

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

bleak to say that drug use as a whole is not getting any less, there are several up sides to it being kept off campus.

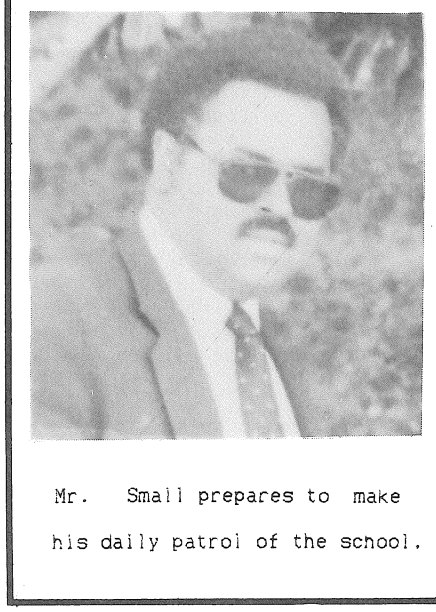
The most important benefit derived from keeping drugs off campus is that the "in-betweeners", as Small and Johnson call them, are not exposed to drugs. We've all been told in all the drug-awareness programs that we've seen that the biggest problem involved with drugs is peer pressure. If people see their friends doing drugs, they are more likely to do them, rather then just start on their own. Or so they say. If drugs are kept off campus, then peer pressure is reduced that much more. People who would ordinarily only have access to drugs on campus will be cut off. They will be forced to give them up. At least, that's what the district security office hopes. So, far from being useless, Small and Johnson serve to keep the casual in-betweeners from developing a habit. The real hardcore users, says Johnson ,will use no matter what. But, he says, all the users will eventually be caught. "If we don't get to them on campus, their habit will get to them somewhere else."

Not that El Cerrito is a "pure" campus, thanks to the efforts of Small and Johnson. Drug use has been replaced by another problem: alcohol abuse.

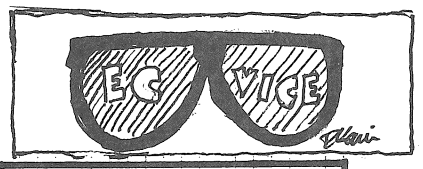
Students seem to have turned from drugs to alcohol because it is less dangerous and more socially acceptable. Alcohol abuse is pretty wide at all schools, but more evident at El

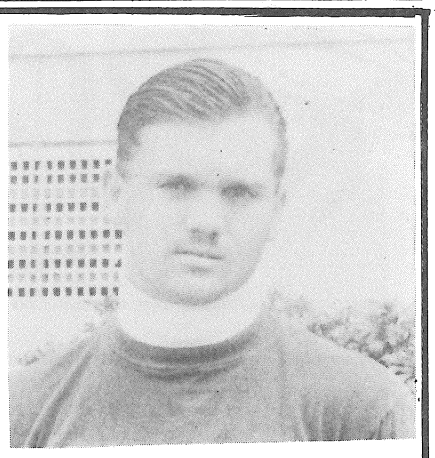
CONTIUED NEXT COLUMN

Cerrito. More often than not, Small and Johnson find themselves having to deal not with drinking, but with its effects. Ignoring any sort of moral stance, throwing up or passing out in class is not what people are in school for, and that's where the problems come in. People will go off campus, says Small, get drunk, then come back and leave the officers to deal with the effects. But again, the actual use of alcohol is being kept off campus. Small and Johnson are fulfilling their function, their "obligation", as Johnson puts it.



Mr. Small prepares to make his daily patrol of the school.





Dan Smith is definitely going places.

Danny Smith Kicks It Abroad

by Kari Chew

Rarely does an El Cerrito athelete get picked to compete in international atheltic competitions. E. C. junior Danny Smith did.

Danny Smith is one of the eighteen players selected to the Northern California 16-18 age division team, which is sponsered by Teams USA.

The team will travel to the Soviet Union, West Germany, The Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden throughout July and the beginning of August. More than twenty five nations and 12,000 players will participate in the Gothia Cup Tournament in Sweden. "I want to see how they play soccer and see where I stand compared to them", added Smith.

"I really didn't think I'd make the team. About fifty people tried out for this secton and only eigteen spots were available." But, the gaucho team captain, impressed Teams USA coaches with his speed, ball handling, passing and shooting skills.

Dan began his soccer career at the age of five when he enrolled in an under five team. When he got older he played for the El Cerrito United soccer league and worked his way up to all-league on the Gaucho soccer team.

What's special about being selected to this team is that Dan's cousin, Alfonso Rivera, a student at Kennedy, will also participate.

"We have played togther for almost three years. It will be neat sharing the experience with him. Plus, I think will we be easier for us to fit in."

Before Dan goes on this 3,000 dollar journey he will be soliciting for sponsers. Anyone interested in helping him out please drop by the main office or call 525-0234 and leave a message for Danny Smith.

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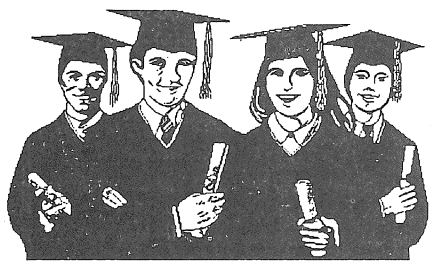
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Help For Aspiring Students

by Elisa Sagle

This year Jennifer Allaire, the college counselor for El Cerrito High School, has seen over 93 seniors to answer questions about colleges and to assist them in applying for financial aid.

Unfortunately, colleges are getting more and more expensive, forcing students to look into some form of financial aid. "Since 1980, the rise in tuition at all U.S. colleges and universities has outpaced price hikes of other goods and services-and by next fall, tuition could average at least six percent more than it did this academic year, or more than three times the current inflation rate," according to U.S. News and World Report.

However, colleges and universities do have their reasons for the price hike in tuition and most schools are being sympathetic to their incoming freshman.The president of Stanford University stated in U.S. News and World Report, "We don't have policy control over any income item except tuition. The only place we can go for improvement is our private patrons because our public patrons are pulling away."

Yet at Rollins College in Florida, like many colleges around the country, one third of the eleven percent increase in tuition and room and board will be channeled into financial aid to help students unable to afford the steeper fare.

The most po pular form of financial aid among high school seniors are grants based on need. The need of a student is defined as the amount of money left over after subtracting all of the family's assets, calculated by colleges from the amount needed for all of the expenses of college.

Allaire feels that students should look into a need based grant first simply because it is free. Last year $350,363.50 was received by El Cerrito's seniors and almost all of which was given to students who applied for need based grants.

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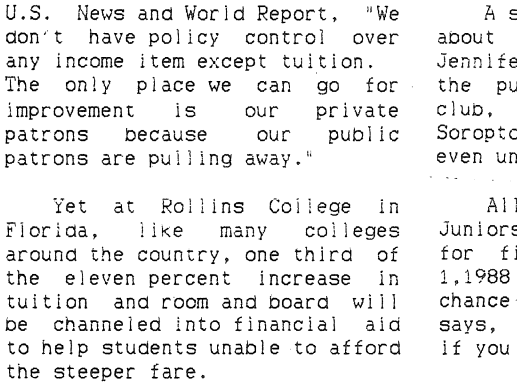
These need based grants come from the federal level such as the Pell Grant and the Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant(SEOG) or from the state level such as the Cal Grant.

Another need based financial aid is the work-study program. A student usually works from 5 to 20 hours a week and receives $7.50 an hour. Also, taxes are not collected from the money earned. This is a great idea for those people who believe in "earning" their education.

However, because many students' families' assets rise far above the amount needed for the college of their choice, Allaire requests that these students look into private scholarships. El Cerrito's college counselor stresses that while good grades are important, they are not always essential. Many scholarships just look for a well-done essay or an outstanding rhealm of extra-cirricular activities.

A student is able to find out about private scholarships from Jennifer Allaire, Mr. Alexander, the public library, the Elks club, the Lions club, the Soroptomists, local churches, and even unions.

Allaire is now stressing to Juniors that they should apply for financial aid by January 1,1988 in order to get the best chance for aid. And as Allaire says, "You will not really know if you qualify until you apply."



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Eagle photo by Dan Nerney.

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OPINIONS

C'mon, It's Not That Bad

By Darren Kani

Looking at all the editorials that have appeared on this page, it suddenly occured to me that not many of them are about good points of ECHS. It's easy to point out things to complain about around school, but when it comes to positive aspects, I agree, it takes a little bit of thought.

Nonetheless, I have thought, and believe me, once I got started (with a little help from Counselor Mr. Becker), it was easy to find things that make ECHS a special school.

This year, ECHS has had a number of litter pick ups in order to keep the school pretty much garbage-free. Occasionally, heavy litter becomes a problem around campus. but I've noticed that in general, the school has been reasonably clean.

ECHS also has the benefit of a tutorial program for those who are having academic difficulty. Its only fee is a little of the students spare time. The program seems to be successful and I have to commend the tutors and the coordinator, Mr. Miller, for taking time out to help.

There are a variety of prevention and problem-solving organizations at ECHS such as Conflict Management, Youth Educators, and SADD, providing drug awareness and personal understanding for students and adults alike. All involve the volunteer work of the students on their own free time.

Basically, I feel the greatest thing about ECHS is its diversity of race, style, and personality. Want to see it all? Take a look around at lunchtime. First of all, there are what Mr. Becker calls "enclaves of nerdism". That is the people who hang out in the different rooms, like the Chemistry room, the Biology room and the Computer Science room. In the Pit, there are the "sun-worshipping low scale designer pit lizards"; these people who like to kick back in the pit during lunch and soak up the rays. Out on the field, the "field mice" thrive, eating lunch in squatting, talking groups. The basketball courts have the "lunchtime hoopsters" and their fan club, concentrating more on slamming basketballs and sandwiches. The "hillsters" hang out on Eureka, or "Tobacco Road" during the lunch hour. The people who foot it to Freds or drive to Burger King, more commonly the "Quick Stoppers", will go any distance to avoid school or home food and seek high calorie thrills. Out in front are the "Front Lawn Thrashers" who must be distant cousins to the previously mentioned "field mice". Could anyone forget the cafeteria? The local hangout for the "Lunchtime MCs"? Of course not. Finally, what about the band room? Home of food for thought, homework and music.

ECHS is a very well proportioned school, culturally and otherwise. Every school has it's faults, and if they can be overlooked and the positive aspects realized, perhaps, high school can be considered more of an pleasant experience than a chore.

It's the DBC, again

by Jef Bekes.

The Richmond Unified School District has considered a revision of the District Basic Commitment policy. The proposed changes are the result of a survey given to students, faculty, and parents. They include an extension of the grace period to turn in notes from three days to five days and changing the number of unexcused absenses to lower a grade from two to three. Yet, while making minor modifications in the policy may lessen it's drastic nature, it still will not change the underlying fallacies in the execution and intent of the policy.

The actual intent of the policy was to cut down on the amount of unexcused absences by students. Yet, according to Mrs. Pat Rupley, Assistant Superintendent of the R.U.S.D., there is no evidence that shows a decrease in the amount of unexcused absences since the policy began three years ago. Many questions have been raised as to whether the DBC has served its purpose. The popular consensus seems to be that it hasn't.

The main problem, however, is not whether the policy has worked, (it has only been in effect for three years), but rather, the means that the district uses to achieve their goals.

The DBC is atttempting to enforce attendance through lowering grades, the argument being that if you miss school you will not do as good a job as you would if you were there. This logic is true in most cases and under this assumption the district needs not to lower grades because they will already be affected by not being in school. There are however exceptions to the case. Many students myself included, feel that if there is nothing important being done in class, there is no logical reason to go. If I can maintain an "A" in my class regardless of attendance, I feel that I deserve the "A". Grades are a measure of academic achievement, not attendance. Period.

The district is trying to solve what they feel is a significant problem, which it may be, but it going out of its jurisdiction to do so. A student's grade should only be dependent on his performance, not attendance. The proposed changes may lessen the evils of the policy, but it does not change the fact that it is wrong.

A Letter to the Editor

by Andrew M. Kaplan

We at the El Caballero are severly disappointed at the lack of letters to the editor. So we'll make it easy for you. We'll provide you with a letter. All you have to do is circle your choices.

(a) Dear authoritans in charge of the needlessly oppressive administrative policies of this pathetic excuse for an educational institution:

(b) Dear loveable teachers and administrators who we all know are not responsible for the perhaps slightly harsh policies forced upon them by their superiors:

(c) Friends, Romans, and Countrymen:

(d) Dear communist, disrespectful disgraces to responsible journalism:

We are (a) kind of peeved, (b) dissatisfied, (c) madder than wet hens, (d) so damn mad that we would do mean and nasty things to stuff

about the new policy at this school regarding the slips of blue paper required by each student to traverse the halls of this (a) fine institution, (b) school, (c) filthy oppresive spit-hole.

Many students think that this policy is (a) amusing, (b) oppressive, (c) silly, (d) extremely nazi-like.

We would like to see the repeal of this policy before (a) I get caught, (b) innocent people get caught, (c) we get stopped in the halls by Gestapo-like agents demanding "Let us see your papers, or ve vill send you to ze Russian Front!"

We recognize that students freely roaming the halls may or may not be a problem, but this isn't the way to solve it. So there!

Love, (a) Students Hiding In Terror. (b) Student Coalition Undermining Morals. (c) a friend. (d) Marc Antony.

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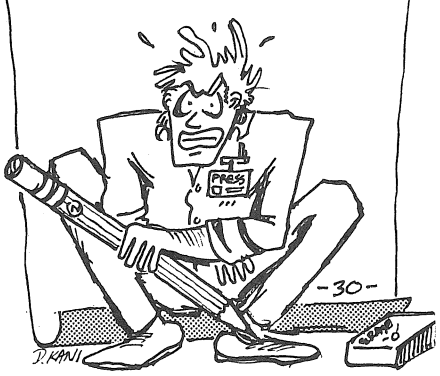

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SPORTS

Gaucho Sluggers Take a Stinging, Lose to Hornets, 5-1

by Amy Page

The Gauchos were stung by Eric Schullstrom last Tuesday. The Alameda pitcher struck out 13 El Cerrito batters en route to a 5-1 Hornet victory.

The loss dropped the Gauchos' record to 7-6 in GBAL action and 13-9 overall.

El Cerrito faces Kennedy this afternoon at 3:30 in Richmond, and travels to Concord next Tuesday to play De La Salle in the last game of the season.

The Hornets flew off to a quick start, pounding pitcher Lumus Russell in the first inning. Solid hitting and four Gaucho fielding errors added up to four Alameda runs.

In the third, the Hornets added another insurance run, off a lead-off triple and tag-up, bringing the score to 5-0.

Meanwhile, Schullstrom hurled a three hitter, blanking the Gauchos until the bottom of the seventh. Corey Wafer had the first Gaucho hit, on a single to centerfield. In the third before Schullstrom struck outr the next eight consecutive batters. Gaucho Roger Tsurumoto singled in the sixth.

Nate Brown relieved Russell in the sixth and held the Hornets at five. The Gauchos prevented an Alameda shutout, managing to score one run in the seventh. Sean Prior led off with a triple to right field and came home when Gary Jones' sharp grounder went under the glove of the first baseman.

In girls' softball action, Alameda beat the Gauchos, 10-7. Janet Schultz singled twice and allowed only one run in four innings to lead El Cerrito.

Tracksters Stride for GBAL Title

by Vell Lehman

At the last home track meet of the 1987 season both the men's and women's teams demolished Berkeley. The men won 70 to 45 and the women outscored the Yellowjackets 46 to 39. The GBAL championships take place today and tommorrow at the college of Alameda.

Senior Alex Da Silva striding to victory in the 1600 and 800 led the Gaucho's scoring. Andre Love placed a close 2nd to Todd Hunter of Berkeley in both the 100 and 200. Keith Dixon was the other top El Cerrito scorer, he won both the Long Jump and the Triple Jump.

Senior Debra Binnall, like Da Silva, won the 1600 and the 800 to lead the Gaucho's. Senior Vell Lehman was Second in both events and Junior Marisa Gardella continued the Gaucho sweep finishing 3rd. RaShawnda Sampson edged out a Berkeley runner at the tape to win the 400. Lauren Strickland won the Long Jump.

The league championships are tommorrow and coach Helen Lehman believes that "the team scores will be extremely close" for both the men and women. "De La Salle will rack up points in the field events but we have strength in the distances that they don't have," Coach Lehman explains. Lehman sees Kennedy as the main competition for the girls but the Gaucho girls have not lost the league title in 4 years. "We're really ready to go out and compete" Lehman said enthusiastically.

Men's Tennis Ends Disappointing Season

by Craig Wong

The El Cerrito men's tennis team are wrapping up a dissapointing season, a letdown after a promising preseason. After placing a strong second in the GBAL last year, the Gauchos have fallen into fifth place in the new GBAL league, leading only the lowly Kennedy Eagles.

Hosting the league leading and undefeated Alameda Hornets in their most recent match on Tuesday May 12 , El Cerrito pulled off a major upset as they defeated the shorthanded Hornets.

In singles action Matt Cone and Po-ta Chang were victorious while the three varsity teams pulled the team through. The teams of Jason Gammill and Jordan Harris, Po-Yung Chang and Sean Bridge and Tan Vo and Craig Wong proved to be the difference .

In previous action, the Gauchos lost twice to Berkeley 8-1, Pinole Valley 6-3 and 7-2, De La Salle 6-3 and 7-2, and Alameda 9-0, in their opening match.

Swimmers Stroke To GBAL

by Jeffrey Pryde

In their season finale the ECHS mens and womens swim team were stung by the Highly rated Yellowjackets 113-20 and 105-50. In earlier action both the ECHS mens and womens teams grounded the Encial Jets 86-54 and 82-57.

Senor Carina Pastor and sophomore Chrissy Schultz paced the Lady Gauchos against the Jets Pastor won the 200 Individual Medley with 2:37.58 and won the 100 Breaststroke with 1:19.14. Schultz won the 200 Free with 2:06.64 and the 100 Backstroke with 1:06.56.

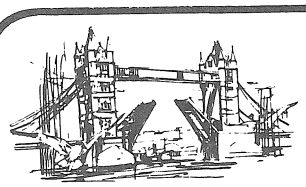
Despite their loss to Berkeley both the mens and womens teams had impressive swims. Junior Ken Hong placed second behind Berkeley's Brian Nabeta with a personal best of 57.49 in the 100 butterfly and also placed second in the 500 freestyle with another personal best of 5:15.60 Senior Huen-Chen Chang won the 200 Freestyle with 2:05.69 and the 500 Free with 5:33.75. Sophomore Chrissy Schultz won the 200 Individual Medley with 2:19.36 and 100 Backstroke with 1:04.67 Senior Carina Pastor swam to a second place finish an the 100 Freestyle with 1:02.99 .

Other Gaucho performances include Sophomore Kristen Nelson placing second in the 100 Breast with 1:26.47 . Sophomore Mercina Purlantov placed second in the 100 Back with 1:26.03 and Sophomore Jennifer Daganzo finishing second in the 100 Fly with 1:19.72.

Junior Ken Hong and Sophomore Joel Salmeron-Viver sparked the mens team over Encinal. Hong won the 200 Free with 2:00.39 and the 100 Fly with 59.11. Salmeron won the 200 I.M. with 2:23.19 and 100 Breast with 1:12.29.

Other Gaucho performances included Junior Jeffrey Pryde placing second in the 100 Breast with 1:16.75 . Senior Seymour Liao placing second in the 50 Free with 27.33 and Sophomore Chris Harmon placing second in the 100 Free with 59.35.

The Gauchos travel to Contra Costa College Tomorrow at 12:00 for the GBAL league meet.



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Students Draw Art Awards

by Jamie Jung

The El Cerrito High School Art Department was well represented at the Richmond Art Festival as 9 of it's art students were awarded top honors during the opening ceremonies. The annual district-wide show was held at the Richmond Art Center from April 21 to April 28.

The Chevron Award for painting went to Tony Craddock, while Phat Giang and Andrew Garcia-Price won the Art Center Award for drawing. Claudia Schreiber was honored by the El Sobrante Art Guild Award and Cathy Wong and Ignazio Cruz won an honorable mention in art. The Honorable mention awards in calligraphy went to Huei Chien Chang and Elly King.

This year's Mabelle Woodman Award went to Tim Towry. This award is particularly special because it is only given to one senior who has taken art and crafts throughout his high school career and has excelled in it. The award itself is a stipend from a donation from Mabelle Woodman, a former district art supervisor. Art teacher Enrich Fink feels that Tim is "good in particular everything from cartooning, illustrating, painting, and lay work. Besides that, he's really enjoyed his daily envolvement in art and crafts for the last six years."

Filling out El Cerrito High's participation in the show are Johnny Acquino, Cassie Espinosa, Lauri Marzoline, Antoine Harrison, Peter Throw, Patty Wong, Casie McMurray, Bronywn Anibrecht, Cassie Clifton, Steve Tanuz, Mary Yu, and York Huang. Fink last, but not least stressed that the quality of the art work that did not gain recognition was similar, if not equal to that of the winners.

Tina Makes Nationals

by Dmitri Mehlhorn

Saturday, April 11th was a day that ended with mixed emotions for Mrs. Berman. El Cerrito hosted the last debate tournament of the year on that day, the National-qualifying tournament; for many seniors, the last high- school debate tounament ever. Berman's competetors came very close to sweeping the tournament, which decides the best debaters from the Bay Area to the top of California.

The tournament runs on an elimination system, and the top two teams go to nationals. The tournament included the top two teams from the major debate schools of northern California. The top 48 teams started in the tournament, and after a day of grueling competition only four teams were left: one from Kennedy, one from College Preparatory High School, and two teams from El Cerrito. One more round would decide the two Nationals qualifiers.

Unfortunately, both EC teams lost their slots. Senior Jose Guerrero and junior Dmitri Mehlhorn lost their final round to junior Gu Kahlon and senior Jen Haapala from Kennedy. Guerrero and Mehlhorn ended up taking third place. Senior Patchen Markell and sophomore Neil Gross lost their final round to seniors Susan Schwab and Zeep Osbourne from College Prep and took fourth place.

Although El Cerrito team debate ended the year on a frustrating note, senior Tina Goldberg was a bright spot for Berman. Tina qualified for Nationals in Lincoln-Douglas (1-person) debate. In her final rounds she defeated Carol Chodrof from College Prep and Chris Seignden from Kennedy. Good job, Tina!

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NMS CONTINUED

Okamura plans to go to Massachusetts Institute of Technology which doesn't recognize National Merit Scholarships.

As semi-finalists the students were required to fill out applications and write essays about themselves and their achievements and goals. Craddock says his goal is "to learn as much as I can in college. Money isn't important as long as I have a cold drink, a place to sit, and a woman to love me." But he says "That's not what I wrote on my application."

Blood CONTINUED

Then a nurse talked to each student individually and received the questionnaire to determine whether he or she was fit to give blood or not. All that were determined fit proceeded on to meet a registered nurse who pricked their finger, took a drop of their blood, and dropped it into a flask of water to see if the blood floated in order to tell if the person was anemic or not. All of those whose blood sank then had their blood taken.

In five munutes the R.N. drew about a pint of blood from the student. The student was then free to go get some cookies and milk. Of course, a local anesthetic was given to inhibit any pain. All the blood was taken to the Alameda Blood Bank which gives El Cerrito "credit" for their donations. Every pint of blood donated is added on to the credit, and whenver any El Cerrito student, faculty, family, or community member needs blood they can get it free from the credit. Your body holds about 8 pints of blood but it can take up to 135 pints to save your life if you're in an accident.

Most schools around the area hold Blood drives. About 125 people showed up to the last one held at El Cerrito. Next years Blood Drive has already been scheduled for around December.

Kayla Shank, the chairman of the Leadership committee that set this Blood Drive up, said, "It was the biggest one ever. I was really happy about it."

Jazz CONTINUED

player David Barraza auditioned and got in to the 30th annual Monterey Jazz Festival All-Star Band.

Paul Yonemura feels congradulations is due to all of the El Cerrito Jazz Ensemble for their great performance at the Monterey Festival.

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Duke CONTINUED

the RUSD budget seems probable. Cuts have to be made because the school districts unlike the federal government cannot run on scarcity of supplies like books and new equipment as well as basic materials. Programs that might be cut at the school would be those that did not generate any revenue. Principal Anna Blackman worries about the cuts but feels the school will be able to function, but there would be as she states, "no icing on the cake."

There has been some resentment to the governor's budget proposal by El Cerrito teachers as well as concerned parents. A letter writing campaign organized by the California Movement for Education Reform (CMER) and Cate Burkhart is leading the movement at the school. Student Association President Dimitri Melhorn receieved a petition against the govenor's actions from the Alhambra High School leadership commmittee and he is circulating it among students.

Later this May, a rally is planned at Sacramento and those interested in attending should contact (CMER). Burkhart asks those who are going to write letters send a copy to local newspaper editors to heighten awareness. People who would like to attend the school House Party should contact Cate Burkhart or the PTA.